

ABC of HIV and Aids

Abstain, Be faithful, Condomise

South Africa is making progress in implementing its programme to fight HIV and Aids, but there are many challenges. Working together we can overcome the challenges of HIV and Aids.

United Nations

A special conference on HIV and Aids was held at this year's United Nations General Assembly in New York. Representatives at the conference heard about progress in implementing South Africa's comprehensive HIV and Aids programme. This programme focuses on how to prevent, treat and manage HIV and Aids.

Managing the disease

The programme deals with actions to prevent and treat HIV and Aids mainly through:

- Khomanani communication campaigns;
- giving out condoms;
- promoting voluntary counseling, testing and treatment



for sexually transmitted infections;

- distributing booklets that teach people about prevention and treatment; and
- improving access to treatment for all HIV positive people, including pregnant women, children and TB patients.

Many challenges

Progress has been made in managing the disease, but there are many challenges. This includes a need for more trained people like doctors, pharmacists and social workers, especially in the rural areas.

To take care of this problem, government is implementing a plan to get people with the right skills to stay in health-care jobs, and to get doctors, nurses and other people to work in rural areas.

All the 53 health districts and 63 sub-districts in South Africa have at least one service point for HIV and Aids where patients can go for all kinds of help.

Below: This set of postage stamps was issued by the South African Post Office to raise awareness of HIV and Aids.

